

**In the Claims**

Please amend the following claims by deleting the language which is enclosed in brackets "[]" and inserting the language which is underlined "\_\_\_\_\_".

1.(Currently Amended)      An umbrella comprising:

a retractable head; a shaft, said shaft and said retractable head operate together to alternately extend, lock, and retract said retractable head; a shaft lower end;

a handle section, said handle section affixed to said shaft lower end; [[and]]

an illumination means [[affixed to said handle section]] housed within said shaft and directed upward[.]; and

a translucent tube circumscribing said shaft such that illumination emitted through said translucent tube is refracted and enhanced.

2.      (Canceled) ~~The umbrella as described in Claim 1, wherein said illumination means is housed within said handle section.~~

3.      (Original) The umbrella as described in Claim 1, wherein said illumination means comprises an incandescent lamp located on the interior of said handle to provide bright illumination to make the umbrella user more visible to approaching motorists.

4.      (Current Amended) The umbrella as described in Claim 1, [[further comprising a]]

wherein said translucent[[, neon-colored]] tube circumscribing the shaft of the umbrella is neon colored.

5. (Currently Amended) The umbrella of claim 3, wherein said [[handle section]] shaft holds and contains a battery assembly at [[an upper end of said handle assembly]] said shaft lower end.

6. (Currently Amended) The umbrella of claim 5, wherein said [[handle section]] shaft further comprises:

a cavity inside [[the handle section]] said shaft;

a series of threads formed along a lower rim of the [[handle]] shaft lower end; and

a screw cap with matching, receiving threads to mate with said threads formed along the lower rim of the [[handle]] shaft lower end such as to removably contain the batteries.

7.(Currently Amended) An umbrella comprising:

a retractable head; a shaft, said shaft and said retractable head operate together to alternately extend, lock, and retract said retractable head; a shaft lower end;

a handle section, said handle section affixed to said shaft lower end;

an illumination means housed within said [[handle section]] shaft lower end; and

a neon-colored tube circumscribing said shaft of the umbrella such that illumination

emitted through said translucent tube is refracted and enhanced.